T.B. incidence

275. SHRI CO. POULOSE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) The incidence of tuberculosis reported in the country, State-wise;

(b) the factors behind increasing incidence of TB; and

(c) what steps Government have taken against the incidence and in the matter of TB drugs resistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The incidence TB cases in the country is estimated to be 225 per lakh of population. The State-wise cases correspond to their population accordingly.

(b) the trend of tuberculosis in India over last several years has been more of less static. About 1.2 million fresh TB cases are reported every year in the county;

(c) Government of India has introduced the Revised National TB Control programme (RNTCP) which aims at coverage of at least 85% new smear positive cases and detecting at least 70% of such cases. Under this Programme, which is at present covering about 330 million population a cure rate of 85%, has been achieved.

Drug resistant TB is the outcome of poor programme performance and arises due to improper/irregular/incomplete treatment. It is the policy of the Government of India to control MDR TB by stopping at its inception by ensuring that patients take complete and proper treatment. For this purpose, the Directly Observed Treatment Short Course (DOTS) Strategy has been adopted under RNTCP under which patient-wise boxes of anti-TB drugs for the complete treatment are supplied and medicines have to be taken by the patients under the direct supervision of the DOTS provider.